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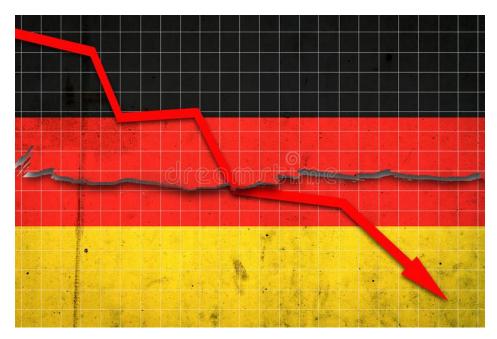
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By Hedelberto López Blanch 18.10.2022

Germany and Europe in economic decline



Sources: Rebellion

With direct support for Ukraine to maintain a protracted war against Russia, the United States has so far achieved two of its objectives: to make Western European countries subjects of its policy, and at the same time to weaken the economies of those countries by eliminating future economic opponents that ruin their pretended unipolar world.

The strong Russophobic propaganda launched by Washington and its pressure on the heads of European governments caused the old continent to follow the guidelines of imposing numerous "sanctions" against Moscow and to renounce the supplies of Russian gas.

Several specialists indicate that the euro zone is in a dangerous situation that may cost it until its possible disintegration, while Germany, which is the largest economy in the region and the bloc, is feeling the consequences of blindly following Washington's dictates.

The policy of subordination to the United States carried out by Federal Chancellor Olaf Scholz since 2021, has motivated that during this summer, the press headlines have constantly insisted that there are energy, climate and economic crises in the country, as well as in the eurozone.

The renunciation of using the Nort Stream 1 and Nort Stream 2 gas pipelines, through which Russian fuel passes with cheaper and more affordable prices, has had a boomerang effect for the development of the nation.

For the first time in three decades Germany recorded a deficit in the monthly trade balance since the last time it happened was in 1991 during the reunification with the former German Democratic Republic (GDR).

In May this year its exports reached EUR 125.8 billion and imports EUR 126.7 billion for a loss of EUR 1.7 billion, a bad event when it is known that its growth depends mainly on exports.

Of course, if the so-called "European locomotive" weakens, the tremors reach the euro zone, whose common currency fell below or in parity with the dollar, its lowest level in 20 years.

In August, inflation in that bloc reached a record of 9.1%, whose main components were, energy (38.3%); food, alcohol and tobacco (10.6%); non-energy industrial goods (5%) and services (3.8%).

So far the great beneficiary has been the United States, which by pressuring Europe to desist from buying Russian gas, has openly entered the market of that region with abundant exports of that fuel.

Data from the company Gasindustrial, reveal that the price of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) that arrives from the United States to Europe is paid between 40 and 50% more expensive than that received from Russia and every time Washington takes advantage more due to the paralysis of the two Nord Stream.

Faced with this lucrative business, the United States accelerated the operations of its main regasification infrastructures to increase sales volumes.

The largest export industries in the United States are: Sabine Pass in Louisiana; Cove Point Liquefaction, en Maryland; Corpus Christi Liquefaction and Freeport LNG, Texas; Cameron LNG and Calcasieu Pass in Louisiana; Elba Liquefaction in Georgia.

Faced with high gas prices, motivated by extortion against Russia, Poland, France, Germany and other nations have begun to use coal and wood to heat homes with the considerable effects on the environment and climate change that increasingly affect all regions of the world.

Another country that is not doing well is Great Britain where many companies have declared themselves in a state of insolvency after the blockades of gas and oil imposed by the European Union and Washington against the Eurasian giant.

A study by the English Office for National Statistics highlights that there have been figures of business closures this year similar to those reported in 2009 during the global financial crisis.

To demonstrate the scale of the problem, the report adds that in the second quarter of 2022 alone, a total of 5,629 companies in England and Wales have collapsed or declared insolvent.

So far Washington has achieved some of its objectives in its eagerness to remain an imperial power: to weaken and put under its aegis (political and economic) the European Union and Great Britain.

But its main plan, that of destroying and subduing Russia has not been possible and on the contrary, Moscow has managed to evade all illegal "sanctions" while diverting its exports of oil, gas, fertilizers and various products to other continents.

In conclusion, European leaders have brought themselves to their knees before Washington, behind the backs of their peoples whose inhabitants are taking to the streets to reject these policies and claim their legitimate rights.

Hedelberto López Blanch, Cuban journalist, writer and researcher.

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